

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AGRE-00 ICA-11 AID-05 EB-08 AF-10 COME-00
ISO-00 TRSE-00 NSC-05 SS-15 CPR-03 PA-01 A-01
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DRAFTED BY IO/AGR AMORA:SB
APPROVED BY IO/AGR A.MORA
AF/W:MARK EATON
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
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INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORKE

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FODAG

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: FAO, OVIP (CARTER, LILLIAN)

SUBJECT: MISS LILLIAN'S TRIP: CERES AWARD ACCEPTANCE
STATEMENT

1. THE FOLLOWING IS MRS. CARTER'S CERES AWARD ACCEPTANCE
STATEMENT. THE TEXT SHOULD BE EMBARGOED UNTIL AFTER ITS
DELIVERY IN ROME JULY 21. ITALIAN TRANSLATION WILL FOLLOW.

2. BEGIN TEXT: I WANT TO THANK YOU, MR. DIRECTOR-GENERAL,
MOST SINCERELY FOR THIS CERES MEDAL, FOR ITS GRACEFUL DE-
SIGN, AND FOR THE GENEROUS WORDS YOU HAVE SPOKEN IN PRESENT-
ING IT TO ME. IT IS A PRIVILEGE TO JOIN THE MANY DISTIN-
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GUISHED LADIES WHOSE IMAGES EARLIER HAVE APPEARED ON CERES
MEDALS.

3. I COME FROM A PART OF THE UNITED STATES IN WHICH AGRI-
CULTURE IS VITALLY IMPORTANT AND NOW HIGHLY MECHANIZED. IT
WAS NOT ALWAYS THIS WAY AS YOU KNOW. I WAS FORTUNATE TO
LIVE AT A TIME WHEN ELECTRIC POWER REACHED OUR COMMUNITY,

WHEN THE FRUITS OF IMPORTANT SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH WERE MADE AVAILABLE TO US, WHEN MY CHILDREN WERE ABLE TO RECEIVE FULL PUBLIC SCHOOL EDUCATIONS.

4. THESE THINGS: ELECTRICITY, EDUCATION, APPLIED SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN AGRICULTURE AND A LOT OF HARD WORK CHANGED OUR LIVES IN A KIND OF PEACEFUL REVOLUTION. WE WERE ABLE TO MAKE OUR LIVES MORE COMFORTABLE, OUR COMMUNITY MORE PROSPEROUS, AND TO LOOK BEYOND IT TO OTHERS LESS FORTUNATE.

5. IF THESE FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES IN THE LIFE OF OUR FAMILY HAD NOT OCCURRED IN THOSE DAYS I WOULD NOT HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY OR THE INSPIRATION OR EVEN THE TIME TO JOIN THE PEACE CORPS AND SERVE IN A VILLAGE IN INDIA - WHERE PEOPLE JUST AS WE DID ARE STRIVING TO BETTER THEIR LIVES BY LEARNING TO APPLY NEW METHODS OF HEALTH, OF FAMILY PLANNING, OF FARMING.

6. I KNOW THAT MANY OF YOU WHO WORK IN FAO HAVE LIVED AS I HAVE WITH DAILY PROBLEMS OF COURAGEOUS PEOPLE WORKING IN HARD CIRCUMSTANCES, TO GIVE THEIR FAMILIES BETTER OPPORTUNITIES, A BETTER CHANCE TO BE HEALTHY, ADEQUATELY NOURISHED, EDUCATED AND USEFULLY EMPLOYED.

7. IN ACCEPTING THIS MEDAL WHICH HONORS MY OWN EFFORT, I LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WANT TO EMPHASIZE THE NECESSITY FOR ALL OF US TO REACH OUT AND WHEN NECESSARY GO TO THE PEOPLE WHO NEED OUR HELP, EVEN THOUGH THIS BE IN PLACES WHERE LIFE IS DIFFICULT AND CONVENIENCES LIMITED. I NEED NOT TELL YOU IN THE FAO OF THE SATISFACTION DERIVED FROM KNOWING THAT YOU HAVE BROUGHT CARE AND HELP TO ONE OF GOD'S LESS PRIVILEGED CHILDREN. IT IS IN FACT, AN OBLIGATION UPON ALL OF US - AN OBLIGATION WHICH WE ARE IN NO WAY FREE TO PUT ASIDE.

8. THE PASSING ON OF RELEVANT EXPERIENCE IN AN EFFECTIVE WAY IS WHAT WE MUST ALL DO. IT CAN HAPPEN AT MANY LEVELS, AT CONFERENCES, SEMINARS AND THROUGH PUBLICATIONS AND TRAINING BUT IT HAPPENS MOST SUCCESSFULLY AND MOST REWARDINGLY AT THE PLACES WHERE THE NEEDFUL PEOPLE OF THIS WORLD LIVE AND WORK.

9. THESE ARE THE LIVING PLACES OF THE MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE OF THIS WORLD -- THOSE WHO WORK IN FARMING, IN FISHING, AND IN FORESTRY. THESE ARE THE PEOPLE WHO ARE BESEECHING US FOR IDEAS, FOR LEADERSHIP, FOR TRAINING, FOR RESOURCES AND AT TIMES FOR THE FOOD THAT WILL KEEP THEM AND THEIR FAMILIES ALIVE LONG ENOUGH FOR OTHER NEEDED ELE-

MENTS TO COME WITHIN REACH.

10. MY SON, OF WHOM I AM VERY PROUD, HAS ASKED ME TO GREET YOU, MR. DIRECTOR-GENERAL, AND THE FRIENDS YOU HAVE ASSEMBLED HERE IN THE SPIRIT THAT JOINS IN THIS OCCASION. I MEAN THE SPIRIT OF GOING OUT TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE POOR AND THE HUNGRY TO ASSURE THEM THAT SOMEONE DOES CARE

AND IS WILLING TO SUSTAIN AND HELP THEM AS THEY STRUGGLE TO OBTAIN THE BENEFITS DESIRED FOR THEM BY THEIR CREATOR.

11. AS WE WEIGH OUR OBLIGATION TO HELP THOSE IN NEED, WE MUST RECOGNIZE THAT THEIR REQUIREMENTS ARE VAST AND PROBABLY G,OWING AT A MORE RAPID RATE THAN OUR CAPACITY TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MEET THEM. NONE OF US HAS A MONOPOLY ON THE ANSWER. NO NATION OR INSTITUTION CAN DO THE JOB ALONE. THAT IS WHY MY MESSAGE TO YOU TODAY IS THAT WE MUST WORK TOGETHER. WE CANNOT AFFORD THE WASTE THAT DERIVES FROM TOO MUCH PRIDE, FROM COMPETITION OR DISTRUST BETWEEN NATIONS OR INSTITUTIONS DEDICATED TO THIS TASK. WE MUST ON EVERY LEVEL SHARE THE TASKS SO THAT MAXIMUM BENEFITS DERIVE FROM WHAT WE CAN CONTRIBUTE. WE MUST COPY UNASHAMEDLY AND CHEERFULLY THE TECHNIQUES WHICH WORK THE BEST AND WE MUST GIVE INCREASED URGENCY TO OUR WORK.

12. FAO, AS THE AGRICULTURAL ARM OF THE UNITED NATIONS HAS A SPECIAL OBLIGATION TO SHOW US THE WAY. IT CAN DO THIS THROUGH ITS SKILLS AND THROUGH ITS VAST NETWORK OF PROFESSIONAL CONTACTS WHICH YOU, MR. DIRECTOR-GENERAL, ARE SO ENERGETICALLY BRINGING TO BEAR ON ACTION PROGRAMS AT THE FIELD LEVEL AND IN AREAS REQUIRING THE GREATEST HELP. IT CAN DO THIS THROUGH A RENEWAL OF THE DEDICATION WHICH HAS CHARACTERIZED THIS ORGANIZATION SINCE 1945 AND WITH A SENSE OF HUMILITY WHICH COMES NATURALLY TO THOSE MOST AWARE OF THE STAGGERING SIZE OF THE JOB AHEAD OF US.

13. THROUGH ALL OF YOU AND WITH YOU WE MUST CREATE THAT SAME PEACEFUL REVOLUTION OF THE FARMS AND IN THE VILLAGES OF THE WORLD THAT MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR ME TO RECEIVE TODAY THIS HONOR IN THIS BEAUTIFUL, ETERNAL, CITY OF ROME. CHRISTOPHER

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